



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Council on Aging Minutes 05/17/2001

Members Present: Kathy McMahon, Harry McCabe, Mary Dodge, Hannah Simon, Richard Murray, Shirley Chapski, Dottie Nicholas, Phil Mercandetti

Members Absent: Mildred Hurd

Others Present: John Jope (COA Executive Director), Maureen Jackson (COA Secretary), Gloria von Hyeburg, Angelo Bergantino and Harold Forbes, MD

Quorum Identification/Call to Order: Kathy McMahon, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.
 A quorum of 8 was present

Minutes of April 19 Council Meeting: It was MSV to accept the minutes as written.

Public Forum: Harold Forbes, MD came before the Council and asked to be considered for the Minuteman Senior Services Board vacancy. Phil made the motion and Hannah seconded the motion to appoint Dr. Forbes to the Minuteman Senior Services Board. Vote was unanimous in favor. Angelo Bergantino asked the Council what was the intent of the Sevoyan Will.

REPORTS

Executive Director's report: John reported plans for the garden area in front of the Senior Center on 27 Maple Street are in full swing. Jackie Keshian has been working with the Garden Club and they will help with picking out the plants, bushes, etc. Alan McClennen has approved \$500 for new plants for the area. John also reported the student nurse interns created an easy-to-read brochure for Arlington seniors explaining the new Pharmacy Program. They brought them to the senior housing buildings in town, the libraries, drug stores, churches, Board of Health, etc.

Finance Committee: Richard reported the ending ledger balance of the Sevoyan Bequest was approximately the same as beginning ledger balance. John explained that under Elder Affairs Grant salaries the overdrawn amount is leveling off. John has requested last half of Block Grant money (\$33,900) to come over. John stated Transportation Budget would be well in the black for this year. Should also be in the black for FY2002 and 2003.

Sevoyan Bequest Committee: Had met earlier that night to answer any questions the new Council members might have.

Transportation Group: Dottie reported she and John met with the Purchasing Agent for the Town of Arlington, Teresa DeBenedictis. Would like to get more vendors involved in the bidding process and find out what they have to offer. A questionnaire is going out to Dial-A-Ride clients to find out what they think about the programs hours, drivers, service, etc. Teresa needs final contract criteria by late September. Our current contract ends December 31, 2001.

Needs Assessment Committee: Mary reported the survey is done! Mary met with the two Senior Association people on the committee. Their Board members will be receiving a copy of it at their next board meeting and will see what changes they can make in their programs to fill the needs that were identified in the survey. The COA will also see what changes they can make in their programs as a result of this survey.

Assisted Living/Housing Options Task Force: Hannah reported she is trying to set up a meeting with Stern Management. They operate an assisted living facility which is less expensive than the traditional assisted living housings.

ASA representative to COA: Gloria von Hyeburg reported that she would like to see the ASA and the COA work together to make the quality of life for seniors in Arlington better. She stated both organizations have the same goal and should work together in harmony. The COA takes care of the health needs of the elderly and the ASA takes care of their social needs.

ANY NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Gift Fund: Richard questioned if there should be a limit for the amount a check could be written for. The Finance Committee will look into this and report back to the Council. Hannah volunteered to be on the Finance Committee.

Nomination and election of officers for 2001-2002: Phil made the motion to appoint Richard Murray as Chair, Mary seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor. Phil made the motion to appoint Mary Dodge as Vice-Chair, Hannah seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor. Hannah made the motion to appoint Shirley Chapski as Secretary. Phil seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Proposal for slight change in van rates to/from Senior Center: Richard made the motion to change the COA van rate to the Senior Center from \$.50 one-way, \$.75 round-trip to \$.50 one-way, each way. The \$.75 round-trip cost is eliminated. Hannah seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Council Secretary _____